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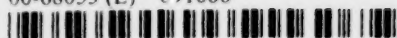
**Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of
five non-permanent members of the Security Council**

**Letter dated 9 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative
of Mauritius to the United Nations addressed to the President of
the General Assembly**

Kindly refer to my letter dated 27 September 2000, a copy of which is attached (see annex).

I write to request that the above-mentioned letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly in view of the elections for the Security Council to be held tomorrow, 10 October 2000.

(Signed) Anund Priyay Neewoor
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 9 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

27 September 2000

As you are aware, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of the Republic of Mauritius, Anil Kumarsingh Gayan, had, in his statement to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on 22 September 2000, confirmed the candidature of Mauritius for election to one of the non-permanent seats on the Security Council for the period 2001-2002 at the elections to be held during the current session of the Assembly.

In this regard, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius sent a note verbale on 22 September 2000 to the permanent missions in New York explaining the background of the candidature of Mauritius. I have the honour to attach a copy of the note verbale for your information (see appendix). You would kindly observe from the note that the summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity, held in Togo in July, did not endorse any candidature for the non-permanent Security Council seat for Africa, for which elections will be held during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Anund Priyay **Neevoor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

**Appendix to the letter dated 27 September 2000 from the
Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations
addressed to the President of the General Assembly**

22 September 2000

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations presents its compliments to the permanent missions of the United Nations and has the honour to inform that the Government of the Republic of Mauritius has presented the candidature of Mauritius for election to the Security Council for the term 2001-2002 at the elections to be held during the current fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly to fill the non-permanent seat to be vacated by Namibia at the end of this year.

In presenting its candidature, the Government of Mauritius is fully conscious of the important responsibility of the Security Council as the highest institution of the international community under the United Nations system entrusted with the important task of ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security. The Government of Mauritius is convinced that it has all the necessary credentials and the ability to contribute effectively in the deliberations and the decision-making process in the Security Council on all issues of peace and security.

Mauritius is a multi-ethnic secular democracy where all religions and cultures co-exist in harmony and absolute freedom. The Government and people of Mauritius highly cherish our pluralism, rich democratic tradition and the values of freedom of the individual and human rights, which are so deeply entrenched in the constitution of the country.

As a member of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth, the International Organization of La Francophonie, the Southern African Development Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation and the Indian Ocean Commission, Mauritius pursues a proactive foreign policy for the promotion of peace, security and cooperation at the regional as well as the international level.

Furthermore, there is no African consensus candidate for the Security Council election this year. In this regard, Mauritius was the first country to declare its candidature, as far back as January this year, at a meeting of the eastern African subregion, to which the Security Council seat for Africa for the term 2001-2002 is assigned. The Coordinator of the eastern African subregion, the Chairman of the African Committee of Ambassadors on Candidatures, the Permanent Observer Mission of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in New York and the OAU secretariat in Addis Ababa were also thereafter informed in writing of the decision of the Government of Mauritius to be candidate for the Security Council elections before any other candidate.

In view of strong opposition from Uganda to the candidature of another country which had come up later, and also because of the maintenance of the Mauritius candidature, there has been no consensus either in the African Committee of Ambassadors on Candidatures or in the Africa Group of the Whole.

At the OAU summit in Lomé in July, there was no decision taken at the level of the summit on the endorsement of any African candidate for the Security Council

for the term 2001-2002 in view of a formal objection to the candidature of one particular country by the President of Uganda and the maintenance of the candidature of Mauritius. In fact the summit Chairman, the President of Togo, announced in the final moments of the last working session of the summit that he would hold consultations later on the issue. The consultations are yet to take place. The OAU Council of Ministers, which met after the closure of the final working session of the summit, was not required to take up the question of endorsement of a candidate for the Security Council seat in view of the earlier decision announced by the summit chairman that he would hold consultations with the President of Uganda personally on the issue.

In the circumstances and, above all, fully convinced of the profile and the credentials of its candidature, the Government of Mauritius requests the kind support of your esteemed Government for the candidature of Mauritius at the elections for the non-permanent seat of the Security Council next month.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the permanent missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.